

10/588404

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Docket No.: 5259-000070/US/NP
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Masaki KITAHARA et al.

Application No.: US National Phase of
PCT/JP2005/018187

Confirmation No.: N/A

Filed: Concurrently Herewith

Art Unit: N/A

For: VIDEO ENCODING METHOD AND
APPARATUS, VIDEO DECODING METHOD
AND APPARATUS, PROGRAMS
THEREFOR, AND STORAGE MEDIA FOR
STORING THE PROGRAMS

FIRST PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

MS PCT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 8 of this paper.